

I. IN THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims replaces all prior listings.

1. (Currently amended) A computer-implemented method comprising steps of:  
a processor receiving, via an identification input device, identification information from a  
consumer;

a processor storing in computer memory records of promotions received by said  
consumer;

a processor identifying from said records of promotions received by said consumer, based  
upon said received identification information, one or more parameters related to said promotions  
received by said consumer; and

a processor determining a time at which a promotion is to be provided based upon said  
identified one or more parameters related to promotions received by said consumer.

2. (Original) The method according to claim 1, wherein said one or more  
parameters related to said promotions received by said consumer relate to a packaging of said  
received promotions received by said consumer.

3. (Original) The method according to claim 1, wherein said one or more  
parameters related to said promotions received by said consumer relate to a time at which said  
promotions received were received by said consumer.

4. (Original) The method according to claim 1, wherein said one or more  
parameters related to said promotions received by said consumer relate to a product class of said  
promotions received by said consumer.

5. (Original) The method according to claim 1, wherein said one or more  
parameters related to said promotions received by said consumer relate to a product industry of  
said promotions received by said consumer.

6. (Original) The method according to claim 1, wherein said one or more  
parameters related to said promotions received by said consumer relate to a location where said

promotions received can be exercised by said consumer.

7. (Original) The method according to claim 1, wherein said one or more parameters related to said promotions received by said consumer relate to a value of said promotions received.

8. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein said one or more parameters related to promotions received by said consumer relate to a validity date of said promotions received, such that said determining is based upon at least one validity date of promotions previously received by said consumer.

9. (Original) The method according to claim 1, wherein said one or more parameters related to said promotions received by said consumer relate to a provision method of said promotions received.

10. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein said one or more parameters related to said promotions received by said consumer relate to [[a]] other purchases necessary to exercise said promotions received.

11. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 1, ~~wherein said one or more parameters related to said promotions received by said consumer relate to a nature of said promotions received.~~ wherein said records of promotions received by said consumer are stored in said computer memory in association with said received identification information of said consumer and characteristics of said consumer.

12. (Original) The method according to claim 1, wherein said one or more parameters related to said promotions received by said consumer relate to a promoter who is the source of said promotions received.

13. (Original) The method according to claim 1, wherein said step of identifying one or more parameters comprises determining if said consumer is appropriate for said promotion, said promotion being predetermined.

14. (Original) The method according to claim 1, further comprising a step of providing said promotion at said determined time to said identified consumer.

15. (Original) The method according to claim 1, further comprising a step of using said received identification information to identify said consumer.

16. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 1, further comprising a step of a processor selecting a targeted promotion from a plurality of potential promotions based upon said one or more characteristics of said consumer, said determined time being for said targeted promotion.

17. (Original) The method according to claim 16, wherein said step of selecting said targeted promotion comprises matching said one or more characteristics of said consumer to a desired consumer profile.

18. (Original) The method according to claim 17, wherein said desired consumer profile originates from a promoter.

19. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 1, further comprising a step of receiving in computer memory a predetermined promotion from a promoter, said determined time being for said predetermined promotion.

20. (Original) The method according to claim 1, wherein said step of determining said time at which said promotion is to be provided comprises determining a number of promotions recently received by said consumer.

21. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 20, wherein said number of promotions recently received by said consumer comprises promotions in a particular industry that were recently received by said consumer.

22. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 20, wherein said number of promotions recently received by said consumer comprises promotions exercisable at a particular location that were recently received by said consumer.

23. (Original) The method according to claim 1, wherein said step of determining said time at which said promotion is to be provided comprises determining a value of said promotions recently received by said consumer.

24. (Original) The method according to claim 1, wherein said step of determining said time at which said promotion is to be provided comprises determining an importance of said provision of said promotion to a promoter.

25. (Original) The method according to claim 24, further comprising charging a promoter according to said importance of said provision of said promotion.

26. (Original) The method according to claim 1, wherein said step of determining said time at which said promotion is to be provided comprises determining at least one of a demographic and a purchase history characteristic of said consumer.

27. (Original) The method according to claim 1, wherein said step of determining said time at which said promotion is to be provided comprises:

determining promotions recently received by said consumer;

determining at least one of a demographic and a purchase history characteristic of said consumer;

determining an importance of said provision of said promotion to a promoter; and

fusing said determined promotions recently received, said at least one of a demographic and a purchase history characteristic, and said importance of said provision into one parameter related to said time at which said promotion is to be provided.

28. (Currently amended) A system, comprising:

means, including an identification input device, for receiving, at a processor,  
identification information from a consumer;

means, including a processor, for storing in computer memory records of promotions  
received by said consumer;

means, including a processor, for identifying from said records of promotions received by  
said consumer, one or more parameters related to said promotions received by said consumer  
based upon said identification information received by said means for receiving; and

means, including a processor, for determining a time at which a promotion is to be provided based upon said one or more parameters related to said promotions received by said consumer, said one or more parameters identified by said means for identifying.

29. (Currently amended) The system according to claim 28, wherein said one or more parameters of related to said promotions received by said consumer ~~comprising~~ comprises at least one of a timing, an industry, a class, a type, a packaging, a validity date, a valid location, other products that must be purchased to exercise, and a value of said promotions received by said consumer.

30. (Original) The system according to claim 28, further comprising means for providing said promotion at said time determined by said means for determining to said consumer identified by said means for identifying.

31. (Currently amended) The system according to claim 28, further comprising means, including a processor, for selecting a targeted promotion from a plurality of potential promotions stored in computer memory based upon said one or more characteristics of said consumer, said time determined by said means for determining being for said targeted promotion

32. (Original) The system according to claim 28, further comprising means for receiving a predetermined promotion from a promoter, said time determined by said means for determining being for said predetermined promotion.

33. (Previously presented) A system, comprising:  
a consumer identification information receiver configured to receive consumer identification information;  
a consumer identification record configured to contain stored consumer identification information;  
a consumer characteristic record configured to contain a record of characteristics of said consumer;  
a promotion output device configured to output a targeted promotion at a promotion time based at least in part upon said record of characteristics of said consumer; and  
a processor configured to use said received consumer identification information to

identify a consumer using said stored consumer identification information, and moreover to determine said promotion time at least in part based upon said record of characteristics of said consumer contained in said consumer characteristic record.

34. (Original) The system according to claim 33, wherein:  
said promotion output device comprises a network interface; and  
said promotion comprises an electronic signal.

35. (Original) The system according to claim 33, wherein said consumer characteristic record comprises:  
a received promotions record configured to contain a record related to received promotions received by said consumer.

36. (Original) The system according to claim 35, wherein said received promotions record comprises a received promotion value record.

37. (Original) The system according to claim 35, wherein said received promotions record comprises a received promotion validity date record.

38. (Original) The system according to claim 35, wherein said received promotions record comprises a received promotion valid location record.

39. (Original) The system according to claim 35, wherein said received promotions record comprises a received promotion product class record.

40. (Original) The system according to claim 35, wherein said received promotions record comprises a received promotion industry record.

41. (Original) The system according to claim 35, wherein said received promotions record comprises a received promotion provision method record.

42. (Original) The system according to claim 35, wherein said received promotions record comprises a received promotion packaging record.

43. (Original) The system according to claim 35, wherein said received promotions record comprises a received promotion time of receipt record.

44. (Original) The system according to claim 33, wherein said processor is further configured to select said targeted promotion from a plurality of potential promotions based upon said one or more characteristics of said consumer.

45. (Original) The system according to claim 33, further comprising a promotion receiver configured to receive a predetermined promotion from a promoter, said promotion time determined by said processor being for said predetermined promotion.

46. (Original) A computer readable medium containing program instructions for execution on a computer system, which when executed by the computer system, cause the computer system to perform the method recited in any one of claims 1 to 27.

47. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein said promotions received by said consumer is embodied in a flier.

48. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein said promotions received by said consumer is embodied in a newsletter.

49. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein said promotions received by said consumers comprises a coupon.

50. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein said promotions received by said consumers is embodied in a recipe.

51. (Previously presented) The system according to claim 28, wherein said promotions received by said consumer is embodied in a flier.

52. (Previously presented) The system according to claim 28, wherein said promotions received by said consumer is embodied in a newsletter.

53. (Previously presented) The system according to claim 28, wherein said promotions received by said consumer comprises a coupon.

54. (Previously presented) The system according to claim 28, wherein said promotions received by said consumer is embodied in a recipe.

55. (Previously presented) The system according to claim 33, wherein said targeted promotion is embodied in a flier.

56. (Previously presented) The system according to claim 33, wherein said targeted promotion is embodied in a newsletter.

57. (Previously presented) The system according to claim 33, wherein said targeted promotion comprises a coupon.

58. (Previously presented) The system according to claim 33, wherein said targeted promotion is embodied in a recipe.

59. (Currently amended) A computer-implemented method, comprising:  
receiving identification information from a consumer at a vendor location site,  
comprising a vendor terminal, wherein said vendor terminal is located at a check-out counter in a store;

identifying with a processor, based upon said received identification information, one or more parameters related to promotions received by said consumer; and

determining with a processor, a time at which a promotion is to be provided based upon said identified one or more parameters related to promotions received by said consumer.

60. (Currently amended) A system, comprising:  
means, including an identification input device, for receiving identification information from a consumer at a vendor location site, which comprises a vendor terminal, wherein said vendor terminal is located at a check-out counter in a store;

means, including a processor, for identifying one or more parameters related to promotions received by said consumer based upon said identification information received by

said means for receiving; and

means for determining a time at which a promotion is to be provided based upon said one or more parameters related to promotions received by said consumer, said one or more parameters identified by said means for identifying.

61. (Previously presented) A system, comprising:  
a consumer identification information receiver at a vendor location site configured to receive consumer identification information from a consumer, wherein said vendor location site is a check-out counter in a store;  
a consumer identification record configured to contain stored consumer identification information of said consumer;  
a consumer characteristic record configured to contain a record of characteristics of said consumer;  
a promotion output device configured to output a targeted promotion at a promotion time based at least in part upon said record of characteristics of said consumer; and  
a processor configured to use said received consumer identification information to identify a consumer record using said stored consumer identification information, and to determine said promotion time at least in part based upon said record of characteristics of said consumer contained in said consumer characteristic record.

61. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said identifying comprises identifying in a computer system storing said records of promotions received by said consumer.

61. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said determining a time at which a promotion is to be provided based upon said identified one or more parameters related to promotions received by said consumer comprises determining in a computer system.

64. (Previously presented) The system of claim 28, wherein said means for identifying one or more parameters related to promotions received by said consumer based upon said identification information received by said means for receiving comprises means for identifying by a digital processor.

64. (Previously presented) The system of claim 28, wherein said means for

determining a time at which a promotion is to be provided based upon said one or more parameters related to promotions received by said consumer, said one or more parameters identified by said means for identifying comprises means for determining by a digital processor.